

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION
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[Painesville, Ohio] – Lake County Recorder has embarked on an educational program to notify and educate Lake County residents of the benefits to filing a living will or medical power of attorney for health care with the County Recorder's office.

According to Suponcic, the benefit is simple. Should one ever have an unfortunate medical event, and you have a properly prepared living will or medical health care power of attorney, who will know first off that you have such important medical documents, let alone where you may have placed them for safekeeping should you ever need them? What if you are unconscious and/or cannot communicate who has them or where they are located?

Suponcic has a few ideas. First of all, within Ohio, these documents are capable of being publicly recorded in the County Recorder's office for immediate reference by you, your loved ones or medical personnel. With any publicly filed documents, there is a state mandated cost for this service which is \$ for a living will and \$ for a health care power of attorney. These legal documents would be publicly filed documents so for security reasons, Suponcic advises that you never want to place your social security number on these documents – anywhere if you are going to have them recorded.

I have begun issuing laminated Living Will and Health Care Power of Attorney identification cards that you can carry in your purse or wallet that declares that you have such a medical document on file in the Lake County Recorder's office and more importantly contains the exact document number for immediate reference.

I am working with our computer consultants on establishing a website for only these documents so that medical professionals across the world could access your living will or health care power of attorney should you need it in the case of an unfortunate medical emergency. I am in the process of working with area hospitals who have endorsed the idea. The identification card will not only tell medical personnel that you have such intentions, but will also serve as the bridge between having such a document and telling someone exactly where the document can be located.

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